

WHAT IS CLAIMED AS NEW AND IS INTENDED TO BE SECURED BY LETTERS PATENT IS:

1. A cleansing composition, comprising:

(1) at least one foaming surfactant, (2) at least one hydrophobic silica and (3) at least one oxyalkylenated compound in a physiologically acceptable aqueous medium comprising at least 35% by weight of water relative to the total weight of the composition.

2. The composition of Claim 1, which comprises from 35% to 95% by weight of water relative to the total weight of the composition.

3. The composition of Claim 1, which has a viscosity ranging from 7 to 20 Pa.s.

4. The composition of Claim 1, wherein the amount of hydrophobic silica(s) is at least 1% on an active material weight basis relative to the total weight of the composition.

5. The composition of Claim 4, wherein the amount of hydrophobic silica(s) ranges from 1% to 15% on an active material weight basis relative to the total weight of the composition.

6. The composition of Claim 1, wherein the hydrophobic silica is selected from the group consisting of amorphous silicas of pyrogenic origin.

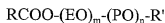
7. The composition of Claim 1, wherein the hydrophobic silica is selected from the group consisting of silicas having a specific surface ranging from 50 to 500 m<sup>2</sup>/g, a number-average particle size ranging from 3 to 50 nm and a compacted density ranging from 40 to 200 g/l.

8. The composition of Claim 1, wherein the amount of oxyalkylenated compound ranges from 1% to 20% on an active material weight basis relative to the total weight of the composition.

9. The composition of Claim 1, wherein the oxyalkylenated compound is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene glycols, polyethylene glycol esters and/or polypropylene

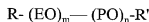
glycol esters, polyethylene glycol ethers and/or polypropylene glycol ethers, alkoxyated alkyl derivatives of polyols, oxyalkylenated triesters of glycerol and of fatty acids, ethoxyethylenated urethane derivatives modified with alkyl chains, and mixtures thereof.

10. The composition of Claim 9, wherein the polyethylene glycol esters have the formula:



wherein  $0 < m \leq 300$  and  $0 \leq n \leq 300$  and  $m + n \geq 6$ , R and R' represent, independently of each other, hydrogen or a saturated or unsaturated, linear or branched, hydroxylated or non-hydroxylated alkyl chain containing from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, or an aryl chain, with the proviso that R and R' are not simultaneously hydrogen.

11. The composition of Claim 9, wherein the polyethylene glycol ethers and/or polypropylene glycol ethers have the formula:



in which  $0 \leq m \leq 300$  and  $0 \leq n \leq 300$  and  $m + n \geq 6$ , R and R' represent, independently of each other, hydrogen or a saturated or unsaturated, linear or branched, hydroxylated or non-hydroxylated alkyl chain containing from 1 to 30 carbon atoms, or an aryl chain, with the proviso that R and R' are not simultaneously hydrogen.

12. The composition of Claim 1, wherein the foaming surfactant is selected from the group consisting of nonionic surfactants, anionic surfactants, amphoteric surfactants and zwitterionic surfactants, and mixtures thereof.

13. The composition of Claim 1, wherein the amount of foaming surfactant ranges from 2% to 50% on an active material weight basis relative to the total weight of the composition.

14. The composition of Claim 1, wherein the foaming surfactant is selected from the group consisting of alkyl polyglucosides, maltose esters, polyglycerolated fatty alcohols,

glucamine derivatives, carboxylates, amino acid derivatives, alkyl sulfates, alkyl ether sulfates, sulfonates, isethionates, taurates, sulfosuccinates, alkyl sulfoacetates, phosphates and alkyl phosphates, polypeptides, anionic alkyl polyglucoside derivatives, fatty acid soaps, betaines, N-alkylamidobetaines and derivatives thereof, glycine derivatives, sultaines, alkyl polyaminocarboxylates and alkylamphoacetates, and mixtures thereof.

15. The composition of Claim 12, wherein the foaming surfactant is selected from the group consisting of an anionic surfactant which is an acylsarcosinate, an oxyethylenated alkyl ether sulfate, an N-aryl N-methyltaurate, an N-acylglutamate, an acylisethionate, an sulfosuccinate, a phosphate or an alkyl phosphate; a polypeptide or a soap; an amphoteric or zwitterionic surfactant which is a betaine or an alkylamphoacetate; a nonionic surfactant which is an alkyl polyglucoside, O-octanoyl-6'-D-maltose, O-dodecanoyl-6'-D-maltose, polyglycerolated dodecanediol (3.5 mole of glycerol) and 2-ethylhexyloxy carbonyl-N-methylglucamine; and mixtures of these surfactants.

16. The composition of Claim 1, which further comprises at least one solvent selected from the group consisting of alcohols comprising from 1 to 6 carbon atoms and polyols, and mixtures thereof.

17. A method of treating the skin, the eyes, the scalp and/or the hair, comprising:  
applying the composition of Claim 1 to the skin, the eyes, the scalp and/or the hair  
thereby cleansing and/or removing make-up from the skin, the eyes, the scalp and/or the hair.

18. A method of treating greasy skin, comprising:  
applying the composition of Claim 1 to the skin, thereby removing grease from the skin.

19. A method of disinfecting the skin and/or the scalp, comprising:  
applying the composition of Claim 1 to the skin and/or the scalp, thereby disinfecting the

skin and/or the scalp.

20. A method of cleansing the skin, the eyes, the scalp and/or the hair, comprising:

applying the composition of Claim 1 to the skin, the eyes, the scalp and/or the hair in the presence of water thereby forming a lather; and

5 removing the lather containing soiling residues by rinsing the lather from the skin, the eyes, the scalp and/or the hair with water.

21. A cosmetic mask, comprising:

an applied composition of Claim 1 as a mask on the skin of the face.

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